

In the Claims

The following listing of claims replaces all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

Listing of Claims

1. (currently amended) A closure device for sealing a container having a neck with an opening edge, an outer thread and wherein the neck defines a central axis X-X', the closure device comprising:

a closure member adapted to surround and close the neck, a sealing disc mounted to said closure member and including a sealing layer for sealing said closure member to the opening edge of the neck when said closure member is mounted to the neck, said sealing disc including an outer annular portion projecting radially outwardly from the opening edge of the neck when said closure member is mounted thereto with said sealing disc sealing the opening edge of the container, and

a ring radially surrounded by said closure member, said ring being provided with an inner thread adapted to cooperate with the outer thread of the neck to thereby secure said closure member to the neck when said closure member is mounted thereto, said ring including at least one projection extending toward said outer

annular portion of said sealing disc and adapted to exert a pushing ~~effort~~ force (F_3) on said sealing disc in a direction to force said sealing disc into spaced relationship with the opening edge of the neck when said closure member is being removed from the neck, ~~wherein~~ and said at least one projection extends from an edge of said ring in a direction that is generally parallel with the central axis (X-X') of the neck.

2.(currently amended) The closure device ~~according to~~ of Claim 1 wherein said closure member is a cap wherein said sealing disc is mounted adjacent an inner face of a bottom wall of said cap, said cap including an annular skirt, said cap and said ring being formed as separate pieces and being interfitted with one another such that said cap and said ring rotate together relative to the neck when said cap is being mounted to or removed from the neck of the container.

3.(currently amended) The closure device ~~according to~~ of Claim 2 wherein said ring is provided, on an outer radial face thereof, with first elements in relief adapted to come into engagement with second elements in relief of cooperating shape formed on an inner radial face of said skirt.

4. (currently amended) The closure device ~~according to~~ of Claim 1 wherein said at least one projection includes an inclined ramp that creates a progressive application of ~~said effort~~ the force (F_3), as a function of a removal rotation of said closure member and said ring.

5. (currently amended) A container for a liquid, the container comprising: a body including a neck having an outer thread for cooperatively receiving a closure member ~~for sealing that~~ surrounds and seals an opening edge of said neck, said neck defining a central axis X-X',

a sealing disc mounted to said closure member and including a sealing layer for sealing said closure member to said opening edge of said neck when said closure member is mounted ~~[[to]]~~ around said neck, said sealing disc including an outer annular portion projecting radially outwardly from said opening edge of said neck when said closure member is mounted thereto with said sealing disc sealing the opening edge of the container, and

a ring radially surrounded by said closure member and provided with an inner thread adapted to cooperate with said outer thread of said neck to thereby secure said closure member to said neck when said closure member is mounted thereto, said ring including at least one projection extending toward said outer annular portion of said sealing disc and adapted to exert

a pushing effort (F_3) on said sealing disc in a direction to force said sealing disc into spaced relationship with said opening edge of said neck when said closure member is being removed from said neck, wherein said at least one projection extends from an edge of said ring in a direction that is generally parallel with the central axis (X-X') of said neck.

6.-10. (canceled)

11. (previously presented) The container of claim 5 wherein said body is a bottle made from plastic materials.

12. (currently amended) The container of claim 5 wherein said closure member is a cap, ~~wherein~~ said sealing disc ~~[[is]]~~ being mounted adjacent an inner face of a bottom wall of said cap, said cap including an annular skirt, said cap and said ring being formed as separate pieces and being interfitted with one another such that said cap and said ring rotate together relative to said neck when said cap is being mounted to or removed from said neck of said body of the container.

13. (currently amended) The container ~~according to~~ of Claim 12 herein said ring is provided, on an outer radial face thereof, with first elements in relief adapted to come into engagement

with second elements in relief of cooperating shape formed on an inner radial face of said skirt.

14. (currently amended) The container ~~according to~~ of Claim 5 wherein said at least one projection includes an inclined ramp that creates a progressive application of ~~said effort~~ the force (F_3), as a function of a removal rotation of said closure member and said ring.

15. (previously presented) The container of claim 14 wherein said ring further includes a plurality of projections equally spaced about said ring, said plurality of projections including said at least one projection.

16. (previously presented) The container of claim 13 wherein each of said first and second elements in relief includes a plurality of teeth.

17. (previously presented) The closure device of claim 1 wherein said ring further includes a plurality of projections equally spaced about said ring, said plurality of projections including said at least one projection.

18.(currently amended) The closure device ~~according to~~ of Claim 17 wherein each of said projections includes an inclined ramp that creates a progressive application of ~~said effort~~ the force (F_3), as a function of a removal rotation of said closure member and said ring.

19.(previously presented) The closure device of claim 1 wherein said at least one projection is spaced from said sealing disc when said closure member is mounted to the neck of the container.

20.(previously presented) The container of claim 5 wherein said at least one projection is spaced from said sealing disc when said closure member is mounted to said neck of said body of the container.